



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Wilfred H. Nelson et al. GROUP: 1641
SERIAL NO: 08/818,534 EXAMINER: J. Hines
FILED: 03/14/97
FOR: **DIRECT DETECTION OF BACTERIA-ANTIBODY
COMPLEXES VIA UV RESONANCE RAMAN
SPECTROSCOPY**

13/C
CSW
9/29/99

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the following claim:

- 1 9. (Amended) A method for the detecting the presence of a specific microorganism in a
2 sample, said microorganism having a characteristic resonance enhanced Raman backscattered
3 energy spectrum produced by irradiating nucleic acids in said microorganisms at a wavelength
4 between 242-257 nm, comprising:
5 (a) contacting said sample with a medium comprising solid phase
6 immobilized antibodies which specifically bind to a characteristic cell surface antigen on said
7 microorganism to form an antigen-antibody complex, thereby immobilizing said
8 microorganism on said solid phase;
9 (b) irradiating the solid phase of step (a) with a laser light of 242-257 nm to
10 produce a resonance enhanced Raman backscattered energy spectrum; and

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